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Report of the Secretary-General on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 2113 (2013), by which the Council requested me to report every 90 days on the implementation of the mandate of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID). The report includes an update on the situation in Darfur covering the period from 1 October to 31 December 2013. It also includes, in section VIII, an assessment of developments against the benchmarks and indicators contained in my report to the Council of 16 October 2012 (see S/2012/771, annex I).

II. Political developments

Implementation of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur

2. During the reporting period, the signatory parties to the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur, namely the Government of the Sudan, the Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM)-Bashar, made limited progress towards its implementation.

3. In accordance with the provisions of the Doha Document on justice, on 22 October the Government issued a presidential decree granting amnesty to JEM-Bashar combatants. The amnesty applies to felonies other than war crimes, crimes against humanity, crimes of genocide, crimes of sexual violence or gross violations of human rights or humanitarian law.

4. With regard to the work of the Special Prosecutor for Darfur, a total of 66 cases are reportedly under investigation by his office. This reportedly includes newly opened investigations into the fatal attacks against UNAMID peacekeepers in El Geneina (Western Darfur) on 13 October and Kabkabiya (Northern Darfur) on 24 November (see paras. 35 and 36 below, respectively). Furthermore, the Government invited the African Union and the United Nations to deploy expert specialists to monitor the Special Court trials provided for in the Doha Document, to ensure that proceedings conform with international standards. UNAMID has commenced the process of identifying suitable experts and arranging for their deployment.

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5. On 20 November, the Government and LJM informed UNAMID that they had entered into a bilateral agreement on security arrangements outside and separate from the Doha Document. The agreement, which was reached without consultation with the Ceasefire Commission, provides for the integration of between 3,000 and 4,000 LJM combatants into the Sudanese Armed Forces and government police. The remaining combatants, the number of which has yet to be specified by the parties, are expected to undergo a disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process. UNAMID has urged the parties to adhere to the security arrangements set out in the Doha Document and is assessing the appropriateness of providing support under the new agreement. Regarding the implementation of the security arrangements for JEM-Bashar forces, UNAMID, in conjunction with the Sudan Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission, held a workshop on the security provisions of the Doha Document for the movement's commanders in Khartoum from 8 to 12 December. Its purpose was to increase their understanding of integration and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes in anticipation of implementing those aspects of the agreement.

6. With regard to the Darfur Development Strategy, commercial agreements between the Darfur Regional Authority and national implementing contractors for the implementation of 315 projects were signed in December. This followed the initiation of a public tendering process on 31 August 2013 for the implementation of 1,071 projects totalling 400 million Sudanese pounds ($82.5 million). The Darfur Regional Authority selected the projects in consultation with local authorities, the United Nations country team and other international partners. They involve the construction or rehabilitation of education, electricity, health-care and water services in 59 localities throughout Darfur. Contracts for the remainder of the projects will be established once the implementation of the first batch has progressed. The Darfur Reconstruction and Development Fund provided the funds from the tranche that it received from the federal Government in January 2013.

7. Moreover, and as agreed under the Doha Document, the Government took steps to increase the participation of Darfuris in the tertiary education system by announcing, on 15 November, the exemption of children of internally displaced persons and refugees from Darfur from paying tuition fees for five years at national universities and State-run higher education institutions.

8. The above-mentioned activities notwithstanding, progress towards the implementation of the majority of the provisions of the Doha Document continued to lag far behind the implementation timeline. This includes the provisions related to the establishment of a microfinance system and the compensation and reconciliation of customary and statutory land right claims, all of which stand to have a concrete impact on the lives of ordinary Darfuris.

9. On 16 December, the Implementation Follow-up Commission held its seventh meeting in El Fasher to review progress against the implementation of the Doha Document. Participants expressed concern about the slow rate of progress and delay by donors in fulfilling pledges made at a donor conference in April 2013. To date, none of the $1 billion pledged has been delivered. In addition, participants expressed concern about the adverse impact that heavy intercommunal fighting had on security and, in turn, on recovery, reconstruction and development efforts in Darfur. Moreover, they urged the Government and LJM to implement the security arrangements within the framework of the Ceasefire Commission.

Negotiations towards an inclusive peace agreement

10. The African Union and United Nations Joint Special Representative and Joint Chief Mediator for Darfur, Mohamed ibn Chambas, continued to engage with the parties to the conflict and countries in the region to promote negotiations over a cessation of hostilities agreement. Between 20 October and 25 November, he met with senior officials of the African Union, the Governments of Chad, Ethiopia and South Sudan and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) to encourage them to play a proactive and constructive role in the Darfur peace process. His interlocutors reaffirmed their support for the peaceful settlement of the Darfur conflict and pledged to urge the parties to come to the negotiating table to discuss a cessation of hostilities.

11. The Joint Chief Mediator, in collaboration with IGAD representatives, held a technical workshop on peace and security for representatives of the Sudan Liberation Army (SLA)-Minni Minawi and JEM-Jibril Ibrahim in Addis Ababa from 9 to 11 December. SLA-Abdul Wahid declined an invitation to attend. The objective of the workshop was to increase the movements' understanding of humanitarian ceasefires and to encourage them to enter into negotiations with the Government. The movements expressed readiness to negotiate, under the auspices of the Sudanese Revolutionary Front alliance, a temporary cessation of hostilities. In addition, they reiterated their commitment to providing unrestricted access to humanitarian and development workers to areas under their control. The Joint Chief Mediator briefed government officials and international partners on the outcomes of the workshop at the International Follow-Up Commission meeting in El Fasher. Further engagement with the parties on the possibility of negotiations over a cessation of hostilities is planned for early 2014.

Darfur-based dialogue

12. On 15 December, the facilitators of the Darfur-based internal dialogue and consultatic (the African Union Commission, the Government of Qatar and UNAMID) endorsed a concept note, communications strategy and road map for the initiative (see S/2013/607). UNAMID commenced a survey of 500 civil society representatives, on 28 November, to ascertain their level of understanding of the process, views on the enabling environment and assessment of what would be needed to ensure that it contributes effectively to the settlement of the conflict. The results of the survey, the completion of which is scheduled for early 2014, will inform the development of operational plans for the consultations.

III. Protection of civilians from physical violence

13. During the reporting period, intermittent clashes between government and armed movement forces, resource-based intercommunal fighting and widespread banditry continued to place civilians at serious risk of physical violence.

14. Fighting between government and armed movement forces escalated slightly, in particular in an arc of territory running from Mellit in Northern Darfur, through Tawilla (50 km west of El Fasher), to Khor Abeche in Southern Darfur. This followed the end of seasonal rains in late September. In Northern Darfur, on 5 October, government and SLA-Abdul Wahid forces clashed in Donki Shatta (25 km north-west of El Fasher, Northern Darfur). According to the authorities,

three Sudanese armed forces personnel were killed and one civilian was injured. The parties clashed again on 26 October at a Sudanese armed forces checkpoint near Mellit market (80 km north of El Fasher). Military officials informed UNAMID that three government soldiers had been killed and four injured in that incident. In addition, movement forces captured military equipment, including two gun-mounted vehicles.

15. According to the authorities and community sources, government and unidentified armed movement forces clashed in the vicinity of Thabit (45 km south-west of El Fasher) on 19 October. That engagement reportedly included air strikes by Sudanese armed forces aircraft. Access restrictions imposed by government security officials, who cited security concerns, prevented UNAMID from conducting a timely assessment of the impact on civilians. UNAMID protested against the restrictions. The following day, Sudanese armed forces aircraft carried out aerial strikes against armed movement elements near Khor Abeche, Southern Darfur, reportedly killing 10 civilians and injuring 6 others.

16. On 27 October, an unidentified armed group attacked a government military camp at Amar Jadeed village (20 km south of Menawashie, Southern Darfur). The attackers killed one government soldier, injured four others and seized two gun-mounted vehicles and a number of weapons. Reports from local sources, which could not be independently verified, attributed the attacks to LJM-Ali Karabino and LJM-Jibril Wafi, non-signatory factions that split from LJM in April 2011. Fighting continued on 31 October near Mershing (90 km north of Nyala), resulting in the death of three government police and injuries to two others. One civilian was also killed. UNAMID urged the parties to refrain from hostilities.

17. The sporadic clashes continued on 15 November, when armed movement elements attacked a commercial convoy under government security escort near Siwar (65 km south-west of El Daein), killing one Popular Defence Force soldier and injuring one civilian. The assailants took two commercial trucks. Government officials attributed the attack to SLA-Minni Minawi. On 24 November, following the carjacking of four commercial trucks by armed movement elements at Ghar Hajar (18 km north-east of Shaeria, Southern Darfur) earlier the same day, government and armed movement forces clashed in nearby Khazanjadeed. On 13 December, SLA-Abdul Wahid forces attacked a Sudanese armed forces camp near Abata (30 km north-east of Zalingei, Central Darfur), killing 10 armed forces personnel and injuring 18. The attackers captured two vehicles and several weapons. Sudanese armed forces aircraft dropped two bombs in the vicinity of Tura village (120 km west of El Fasher) on 29 December. On the same day, unidentified armed assailants attacked a Sudanese armed forces base in Disa (40 km north of Kutum).

18. A personal disagreement between two commanders triggered a clash between Sudanese armed forces and LJM elements in Menawashi market (Southern Darfur) on 21 November. Two LJM personnel, one armed forces soldier and two civilians were killed.

19. Government authorities acknowledged to UNAMID that, on 29 November, a Sudanese armed forces aircraft had fired on a convoy of civilian vehicles near Tangarara (approximately 25 km north-west of Shangil Tobaya, Northern Darfur), killing 10 internally displaced persons (including 2 women and 1 child) and injuring 2 others. The authorities stated that the aircraft was conducting surveillance for armed movement elements when it encountered the convoy, which had allegedly not

coordinated its movement with security officials. UNAMID assessed that an air-to-ground rocket hit the vehicle. UNAMID urged the Government to fully respect the protections afforded to civilians under international humanitarian law.

Intercommunal conflict

20. Resource-based conflict between communities, supported by tribal militias, remained a major source of insecurity and displacement for the civilian population, in particular in Central and Southern Darfur. The intensification of this dimension of the conflict, the trend towards which began in August 2012, is due to several factors. These include a deterioration in the economy of the Sudan in 2012 and 2013 that led to heightened competition between communities for resources, in particular access to arable land, as well as lucrative minerals and hydrocarbons (e.g. gold and oil). Another factor is the disruptions in salary payments to paramilitary forces, which increased their need for alternative sources of revenue and, at the same time, eroded the authorities' control over the forces. Moreover, the intensification has taken place within the context of pre-existing root causes that include impunity and weak rule of law, weak or absent State administrations in rural areas, the prevalence of arms and armed groups, weakened traditional conflict resolution mechanisms and limited opportunities for young people.

21. During the reporting period, fighting between groups from the Salamat and Misseriya tribes, which began in April 2013 over land and local political authority, continued despite the conclusion of a peace agreement between them on 3 July 2013. On 24 and 28 October, incidents of cattle rustling perpetrated by the Salamat against the Misseriya triggered renewed clashes between the tribes in Bindisi and Eberla (29 km west and 12 km north of Mukjar, Central Darfur, respectively). Government authorities reported a total of 24 people killed and 49 injured. In both instances, government security forces restored calm. UNAMID increased patrols in and around Mukjar to enhance the security of the local population. Fighting continued on 7 and 8 November, spilling over into Rehaid el Birdi locality in Southern Darfur through retaliatory attacks perpetrated by the Misseriya and Taisha against the Salamat in Kubum and Markondi (25 km from Rehaid el Birdi). This resulted in the displacement of approximately 18,000 civilians to various parts of Southern Darfur.

22. On 14 November, armed Salamat from Darfur, together with Salamat reinforcements from Chad, launched an attack on the Abuzar internally displaced persons camp, a predominantly Misseriya camp on the outskirts of Um Dukhun town. According to local sources, 50 people were killed and many others injured. In addition, 104 shelters and two community centres were burned. Joint Chad-Sudan border forces intervened to contain the situation. UNAMID transported the Central Darfur *Wali* and the State Security Committee to Um Dukhun on 17 November to mediate. While the situation remained tense, there were no further clashes. UNAMID observed the heavy presence of Sudanese armed forces and joint Chad-Sudan border forces stationed in and around Um Dukhun town. A search operation conducted by those forces in the Um Dukhun market area on 28 November seized 424 illegal firearms. Restrictions imposed by the authorities prevented peacekeepers from moving beyond Um Dukhun town to verify the reports of casualties and assess the impact of the clashes on the civilian population. UNAMID protested against the restrictions to State authorities.

23. Throughout October and November, UNAMID engaged Misseriya and Salamat leaders, as well as State and local authorities, to promote adherence to the 3 July peace agreement and urge government officials to restore peace and stability. Under the agreement, the parties had committed to ceasing hostilities, facilitating the return of people displaced by clashes and paying compensation for casualties of the fighting. To enhance security and prevent further clashes, additional government troops and police were deployed to the flashpoints of Um Dukhun, Bindisi and Mukjar; tribal militia camps throughout Um Dukhun locality were dismantled; and a State decree prohibiting the public display of weapons was issued.

24. The reconciliation agreements reached in July 2013 between groups from the Aballa and Beni Hussein tribes, who had clashed over control of an artisanal gold mine in Jebel Amir (Northern Darfur) earlier in the year, held throughout most of the reporting period. However, on 28 October a dispute over livestock grazing on farmland led to an isolated clash between the groups in which seven Abbala pastoralists were killed and one Beni Hussein farmer was injured. Similarly, on 1 November a group of Abbala attacked and killed a Beni Hussein and a Fur farmer who were tending their farms near the Sabarina gold mine (40 km south-east of El Sireaf, Northern Darfur). Another four Fur were killed the following day while attempting to collect the bodies of the two dead farmers. A joint committee of Fur, Beni Hussein and Abbala community leaders proceeded to the area to mediate. That intervention led to an agreement to refrain from further hostilities, respect each other's assets and adhere to pre-existing reconciliation agreements. Furthermore, the parties agreed that community leaders and militia commanders would work together to defuse intercommunal tensions, community members would be allowed to move freely to access markets in the three surrounding localities and community leaders would focus on preventing conflict between farmers and pastoralists. No further incidents were recorded.

25. On 8 October, clashes were reported between an armed militia group and internally displaced persons in North camp near Nertiti, Central Darfur, after the militia group kidnapped a local businessman who later died in captivity. His death triggered angry demonstrations in the camp and reportedly led to the death of a woman affiliated with the militia group. In reaction, the militia attacked the camp, killing one person and injuring six others, and looted camp residents' belongings. Government police intervened to mediate between the two sides. UNAMID called upon the leaders of the parties to urge restraint.

26. On 5 and 6 December, an attempt by a group from the Ma'alia tribe to demarcate land that the Hamar tribe claimed to own triggered fighting between them near Zarga Muhajid (135 km north-east of El Daein, Eastern Darfur), on the border with Western Kordofan. A total of 36 Ma'alia and 12 Hamar were killed, and several others on each side were injured. According to local sources, the disputed area is a potential location of oil fields. On 7 December, UNAMID engaged both the State Government and traditional community leaders in Eastern Darfur, urging the conflicting parties to cease hostilities. No further clashes were recorded.

27. The destruction of farms by pastoralists triggered clashes between them and farmers in the Jogana and Dougi areas (15 km south-east and 18 km south of Greida, Southern Darfur, respectively) on 7 November. Local authorities and government security personnel who proceeded to the area to mediate were themselves attacked by a group of pastoralists. This resulted in the death of one policeman and injuries

to eight others. Immediately thereafter, the Government deployed additional security forces to the area to restore calm. UNAMID increased patrolling around internally displaced person camps in Greida town to enhance the protection of civilians. There were no further reports of fighting.

28. In the light of the intensification of resource-based intercommunal fighting in Darfur, UNAMID continued with increased efforts to support community-level conflict resolution. During the reporting period, UNAMID facilitated conferences in El Fasher, El Geneina, Khartoum, Nyala and Zalingei for local authorities, community leaders and civil society representatives on the root causes of intercommunal conflict in Darfur. The purpose was to analyse the causes and drivers of this dimension of the conflict and develop recommendations to address it. Participants identified land disputes and poor natural resource management, the prevalence of weapons and the weakness of State institutions as key factors fuelling the violence. Recommendations included building the capacity of traditional reconciliation mechanisms and peace committees, providing traditional mediators with additional resources, increasing the involvement of women in reconciliation processes, establishing a mechanism to monitor potential breaches of local ceasefire or peace agreements and strengthening the rule of law. These recommendations were presented to the authorities, the Darfur Regional Authority and civil society organizations for consideration and implementation.

Banditry

29. Criminal violence perpetrated against government personnel, civilians and UNAMID by armed elements and gangs, typically to obtain vehicles and other resources, continued to pose a serious risk.

30. Between 1 October and 25 December, unidentified armed assailants attacked government security personnel and installations on six occasions, resulting in the capture of vehicles and military equipment. This included, on 17 October, a simultaneous attack by unidentified assailants on the headquarters of the Central Reserve Police and the government police in Saraf Omra, Northern Darfur. One government police officer was killed and another injured. One female civilian was also killed in the crossfire. The attackers escaped with four gun-mounted vehicles.

31. Civilians were also targeted in several serious criminal incidents. On 14 October, in the Al Tadamon area in Nyala, three unidentified armed men attempted to rob a local Zaghawa businessman. The victim and one perpetrator were killed in the incident. Government police arrested one of the perpetrators, while the others fled the scene. On 28 October, unidentified gunmen carjacked a vehicle belonging to the Southern Darfur State Ministry of Health at Gambid (30 km north-west of Nyala) on the road between Nyala and Kass. The vehicle's occupants, which included a doctor, a medic and two government police, were abducted. The reason for their abduction is unknown. As at 31 December, they were still being held. On 25 November, unidentified assailants attacked a Western Darfur State Ministry of Health measles vaccination team in Gokar (25 km south of El Geniena, Western Darfur). Two Ministry staff members were killed in that incident. On 2 December, unidentified armed assailants wearing civilian clothing carjacked a vehicle from a State Ministry of Health measles vaccination team as it passed through Adbul Shakor village (30 km north-west of Kutum). No casualties were reported.

IV. Security situation and freedom of movement

32. Between 1 October and 31 December, UNAMID movements over land were restricted on 35 occasions, compared with 37 in the previous reporting period. The authorities intermittently restricted access to rural areas around Khor Abeche and Shaeria, Southern Darfur, in particular in late November in connection with the suspected presence of SLA-Minni Minawi elements. Government authorities denied 501 of 4,637 flight requests, compared with 826 of 4,734 requests in the previous period. The restrictions tended to be imposed by government security officials on movements in areas of ongoing or recently concluded hostilities between government and armed movement forces. UNAMID called upon the authorities to allow its personnel unhindered freedom of movement throughout Darfur to enable the effective implementation of its mandate.

33. Access restrictions imposed by the authorities also remained a challenge for humanitarian actors. The East Jebel Marra area remained fully inaccessible during the reporting period. In Eastern Darfur, restrictions in place since August continued to prevent United Nations humanitarian agencies from assisting civilians displaced to the Adilla and Abu Karinka localities by intercommunal clashes. A planned inter-agency mission to the area was approved by the Humanitarian Aid Commission and the National Intelligence and Security Service but denied clearance by Military Intelligence on security grounds.

Safety and security

34. Threats to the safety and security of UNAMID and humanitarian personnel due in particular to armed attacks, carjackings and robberies remained of serious concern. UNAMID peacekeepers came under attack on seven occasions, four of which resulted in a total of seven fatalities. This brings to 16 the total number of peacekeepers killed in hostilities in Darfur in 2013 and to 57 the number killed since UNAMID was deployed in 2008.

35. On 11 October, two unidentified assailants stabbed a UNAMID peacekeeper from Zambia in El Fasher when he resisted a carjacking. The peacekeeper later succumbed to his injuries. Two days later, on 13 October, approximately four unidentified armed assailants attacked the last vehicle in a UNAMID patrol consisting of 12 peacekeepers in El Geneina, Western Darfur. Three of the peacekeepers, from Senegal, were killed and one was injured. While the assailants escaped with a vehicle and military equipment, the vehicle was later recovered. The findings of an investigation reportedly opened by the Special Prosecutor for Darfur have not been made available to UNAMID.

36. On 24 November, approximately six unidentified armed assailants attacked a UNAMID vehicle on a logistics patrol near Kabkabiya, Northern Darfur. One peacekeeper from Rwanda was killed. The assailants fled with the vehicle. Government police informed UNAMID that they were investigating the incident. On 29 December, six unidentified armed assailants wearing military dress attacked a UNAMID convoy near Greida, Southern Darfur, killing one Jordanian and one Senegalese police officer. UNAMID peacekeepers repelled the attackers by returning fire, killing one, whose body was taken into government police custody. Government police arrested another near the scene and took him into custody. An attempted carjacking is the suspected motive.

37. A local resident stabbed a UNAMID peacekeeper on sentry duty in Ed al Fursan (Southern Darfur) on 5 October, while attempting to steal his weapon. The peacekeeper suffered minor injuries. The perpetrator was arrested and handed over to local authorities for prosecution. He was later released on bail pending trial. On 2 November, a UNAMID peacekeeper suffered minor injuries when he resisted attempts by two unidentified armed men to carjack the vehicle he was driving in El Daein, Eastern Darfur. The following day, four unidentified armed assailants attacked a UNAMID patrol in Kutum, Northern Darfur, in an attempt to carjack a vehicle. The peacekeepers repelled the attackers by returning fire. There were no casualties.

38. On 20 November, a Sudanese armed forces attack helicopter flew at low altitude over a UNAMID convoy conducting a routine patrol from Kass to Nyala, Southern Darfur. UNAMID protested against the status-of-forces agreement violation with senior government officials.

39. A total of seven carjacking incidents targeting vehicles of UNAMID and humanitarian actors occurred during the reporting period, compared with 12 in the previous period. There were 12 incidents involving house break-ins and robberies targeting UNAMID and humanitarian personnel, compared with 16 in the previous reporting period. Of those, cash and equipment were stolen from international non-governmental organizations in Khor Abeche (Southern Darfur), Kutum (Northern Darfur) and Zalingei (Central Darfur).

40. On 20 November, a rations provider contracted by UNAMID informed the Mission that it had recovered the helicopter detained by SLA-Minni Minawi forces 50 km south of Nyala on 3 August, after it had made an emergency landing. Reportedly, a bullet hole in the rotor blade caused the emergency.

41. Insecurity and attacks on humanitarian actors continued to pose significant challenges to the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance. On 23 October, unidentified gunmen killed the director of a national aid organization during a carjacking incident in Sakali village (15 km south-west of Nyala). One other staff member and a police officer were also injured in the attack.

42. Unidentified armed men stole food and personal effects from World Food Programme trucks delivering aid to Um Dukhun, Central Darfur, on 13 October. The drivers were unharmed and the trucks were not taken. On 7 November, unidentified armed assailants carjacked a World Food Programme truck slightly south of Kutum, Northern Darfur, as it returned from food distribution. A UNAMID patrol dispatched to search for the vehicle located and pursued it. After an exchange of fire with the occupants, the peacekeepers recovered the vehicle 15 km north-west of Kutum. The perpetrators escaped; there were no casualties. On 15 November, central reserve police manning a checkpoint near El Fasher shot and injured the driver of a World Food Programme-contracted truck in what remain unclear circumstances. The driver sustained moderately serious injuries.

43. In a positive development, Sudanese armed forces authorities agreed early in November to provide security at landing sites in Kulbus and Selea in Western Darfur, thereby enabling the resumption of United Nations Humanitarian Air Service flights to those locations. The flights were suspended in September after the UNAMID base in Kulbus was closed in line with the force reconfiguration recommended in the

review of uniformed personnel. An estimated 20,000 people benefit from education, health, livelihood, water and sanitation assistance in the area.

V. Humanitarian situation

44. During the reporting period, the population forum working group revised downward, from 460,000 to 380,000, its estimate of the number of civilians displaced by conflict in the first three quarters of 2013. The adjustment is based on an updated assessment of the number of people displaced by intercommunal fighting between the Southern Rezeigat and Ma'aliya in Eastern Darfur in August 2013. The total figure excludes 20,100 civilians newly displaced by fighting during the reporting period, as this estimate is pending verification by protection agencies through site visits. The working group, which includes government authorities, non-governmental organizations, United Nations agencies and UNAMID, meets periodically to establish a consensus on displacement figures.

45. An inter-agency humanitarian assessment mission to Muhajeria and Labado, Eastern Darfur, early in November found that a significant portion of the 60,000 civilians displaced by fighting between the Sudanese armed forces and SLA-Minni Minnawi in that area in April had yet to return home. Following the assessment, the provision of health-care assistance to approximately 9,890 civilians still gathered near the UNAMID base in Labado was transferred from UNAMID to the Sudanese Red Crescent. In addition, the Government's Water, Environment and Sanitation Department began the construction of 300 latrines and sent technicians to repair 18 hand pumps.

46. Approximately 10,000 of the 100,000 civilians displaced by resource-based intercommunal fighting in and around Jebel Amir, Northern Darfur, early in 2013 have reportedly resettled in 18 "cluster villages" near El Sireaf designated by the Government as return sites. Access restrictions and insecurity have prevented humanitarian protection actors from visiting the sites. International and national non-governmental organizations continued to provide humanitarian assistance, including health care, to some 80,000 displaced persons in other areas around El Sireaf.

47. On 4 December, the World Health Organization and the Northern Darfur State Ministry of Health reported that, following the discovery of an outbreak of whooping cough early in October, the total number of suspected cases in El Sireaf locality had reached 96. On the same day, the agencies sent samples through a UNAMID flight to Khartoum for examination. The agencies continued to monitor the situation and developed plans for a vaccination campaign, the implementation of which is pending the laboratory test results.

VI. Rule of law, governance and human rights

48. The overall number of documented human rights violations increased from 87 incidents involving 189 victims in the previous reporting period to 156 incidents involving 314 victims in the current period (164 victims of violations of the right to physical integrity, 77 victims of violations of the right to life, 63 victims of sexual and gender-based violence and 10 victims of arbitrary arrest and illegal detention).

49. National Intelligence and Security Service or Military Intelligence perpetrated all nine cases of arbitrary arrest and illegal detention. None of the victims were charged with offences. In one incident, a prominent lawyer and member of the Darfur Bar Association, who had been arrested on 26 September in Nyala and then transferred to Khartoum, was held without charges for 32 days. He was released on 28 October.

50. Concerning violations of the right to life, UNAMID recorded 41 cases involving 77 victims, compared with 17 cases involving 19 victims in the previous reporting period. In 13 cases, the perpetrators were identified as belonging to the Central Reserve Police, the government regular police, the Sudanese armed forces, SLA-Minni Minawi or LJM. In the other cases, the victims were unable to identify the affiliation of the perpetrators.

51. The number of violations of the right to physical integrity, including abductions, recorded by UNAMID increased slightly from 42 incidents involving 113 victims in the preceding reporting period to 71 cases involving 164 victims in the current period. In 17 incidents, the perpetrators were identified as belonging to the Central Reserve Police, the Sudanese armed forces, JEM-Bashar or SLA-Minni Minawi. In the remainder, the victims were unable to identify the perpetrators' affiliation. UNAMID urged the authorities to investigate and bring to justice those responsible for the violations.

52. UNAMID recorded 35 cases involving 63 victims of sexual and gender-based violence during the reporting period, compared with 24 incidents involving 31 victims in the previous period. Of the 35 cases recorded, 28 involving 51 victims were rape, while 7 involving 12 victims were attempted rape. A total of 16 cases involved minors. The victims were attacked on farms, while running errands or during firewood or water collection. Underreporting of sexual and gender-based violence remained a challenge owing to social stigma and the lack of confidence in government authorities to investigate and prosecute the perpetrators of such crimes.

53. While victims filed complaints with government police in connection with 15 cases, investigations were opened into only 4 of them. The police cited the victims' inability in eight other cases to identify the suspects as prohibitive to conducting investigations. The alleged perpetrators in the cases under investigation were arrested and detained, two of whom were civilians and one was a member of the Central Reserve Police accused of raping a 6-year-old girl in El Fasher on 18 October. The Family and Child Protection Unit of the government police interrogated the suspects and collected samples for forensic examination in Khartoum. Separately, government police informed UNAMID that a 32-year-old man accused of sexually abusing a 7-year-old boy in Nyala on 1 November was found guilty and sentenced to five years' imprisonment. The suspect has appealed the sentence.

54. UNAMID continued efforts to increase the protection of women's rights. On 31 October, it provided technical support to the Federal Political Parties Commission in support of a workshop on women's participation in constitution-making processes for 75 political party representatives in Khartoum. Between 21 October and 13 November, UNAMID, in collaboration with Northern Darfur State authorities, organized three workshops for a total of 145 traditional community leaders to promote the increased representation of women in traditional administrations. On 30 and 31 October, it facilitated a workshop on legal and policy

reforms for 50 women in El Geneina, Western Darfur, to enhance their participation in the judicial system. On 18 and 19 November, UNAMID, in collaboration with the Northern Darfur Ministry of Social Affairs, delivered training on sexual and gender-based violence prevention to local authorities in Kabkabiya.

55. In addition, UNAMID continued its efforts to promote human rights more generally. On 2 and 3 October, it conducted a workshop on displaced persons' rights for 27 internally displaced persons in El Geneina. It held a workshop on human rights for 29 Ministry of Education officials, including 6 women, in El Fasher from 12 to 14 November. That event was part of a programme to incorporate human rights education in the teacher training curriculum. To promote increased access to justice, on 17 and 18 December UNAMID held a workshop on the right to a fair trial for 50 internally displaced persons in Zalingei.

56. UNAMID continued to work with prison officials to strengthen the corrections system. From 11 November to 10 December, the Mission, in collaboration with the government prisons administration, the University of El Fasher and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), organized a training programme for 30 prison staff across Darfur. Its purpose was to strengthen the capacity of staff to reform and rehabilitate prisoners. On 25 November, UNAMID conducted refresher courses on investigations and the treatment of detainees for prison officials from 11 detention centres throughout Darfur. On 2 December, UNAMID, UNDP and 50 government representatives participated in a workshop in Khartoum at which a five-year Darfur prison strategic plan for 2014 to 2018 was adopted. That plan sets out a framework for the provision of support for prison rehabilitation, capacity-building of prison officials and vocational training of prisoners. During the reporting period, UNAMID conducted capacity-building workshops for a total of 5,678 government police on community policing, crime management, gender issues and child protection.

57. To promote the protection of children, UNAMID maintained ongoing dialogue about ending the recruitment and use of child soldiers with members of the Sudanese armed forces, armed movements and militias. In addition, it conducted 20 training sessions on children's rights for a total of 599 community members and government personnel.

VII. Mission deployment and operations

58. As at 27 December 2013, the strength of UNAMID civilian personnel stood at 93 per cent of the approved strength of 4,369 (2,920 national staff, 1,032 international staff and 417 United Nations Volunteers).

59. The strength of UNAMID military personnel stood at 14,779 (14,102 troops, 353 staff officers, 237 military observers and 87 liaison officers), representing 91 per cent of the authorized strength of 16,200.

60. The number of UNAMID individual police officers stood at 2,303 (comprising 83 per cent men and 17 per cent women), representing 99 per cent of the authorized strength of 2,310. All of the authorized 17 formed police units have been deployed.

61. During the reporting period, UNAMID military personnel conducted 9,806 patrols, including 5,478 routine patrols, 2,070 night patrols, 733 administrative patrols, 638 humanitarian escorts, 624 short-range patrols and 263 long-range

patrols. UNAMID police personnel conducted a total of 11,263 patrols, including 6,112 inside camps for internally displaced persons and 3,361 in villages, towns and markets, 1,205 medium-range patrols, 409 firewood and farm patrols and 176 long-range patrols.

62. From 1 October to 27 December, government authorities issued 1,337 new entry visas for UNAMID personnel. As at 27 December, 117 visas were pending, of which 47 were for United Nations Volunteers, 37 for civilian personnel, 13 for official visitors, 12 for contractors, 6 for military personnel and 2 for consultants. UNAMID continued to urge the authorities to approve all visa requests promptly, including those of United Nations Volunteers with specialist expertise not readily available in the local labour market.

63. The implementation of the recommendations of the review of UNAMID uniformed personnel reconfiguring the military and police components continued. The repatriation of 12 of 13 military units has been completed. The repatriation of the remaining unit, a light field engineering company from the United Republic of Tanzania, commenced in the last few days of December.

64. Regarding the operational and self-sustainment capabilities of troop and police contingents, 29 of the 44 military and police units currently deployed to UNAMID have a major equipment serviceability rate below the 90 per cent threshold. This figure is unchanged from my previous report. Furthermore, the equipment serviceability of several units has declined so that five are now at or below 44 per cent. In the area of self-sustainment capabilities, only 5 out of 44 units fully meet the requirements stipulated in the relevant memorandums of understanding. The remainder lack self-sustainment capabilities in various areas and are partially supported by UNAMID. The shortfalls, which pertain mainly to the serviceability of armoured personnel carriers, continue to undermine the effectiveness of UNAMID. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations continued to engage with troop- and police-contributing countries to encourage them to swiftly address shortcomings in the serviceability of contingent-owned equipment.

65. During the reporting period, a total of 22 quick-impact projects were completed; 56 additional projects are ongoing and at various stages of completion. A total of 67 new projects were approved for implementation.

66. UNAMID, in collaboration with local implementing partners, continued to carry out community-based labour-intensive projects for youth assessed as at risk of joining armed groups or gangs. A total of 15 projects were completed and handed over to communities in various parts of Darfur. On 8 December, UNAMID finalized 26 new project proposals.

67. UNAMID, in collaboration with the United Nations Mine Action Service, continued to reduce the threat posed to civilians by explosive hazards. During the reporting period, the Mission assessed 1,473 km of routes, surveyed 76 villages, covering 198 km^2, as free of unexploded ordnance, and destroyed 53 items of unexploded ordnance and 165 small arms ammunitions. In addition, UNAMID and local partners delivered risk education to 4,662 civilians (49 per cent women and 45 per cent children). UNAMID also provided support to government police in the rehabilitation of weapons storage facilities in El Fasher.

68. Pursuant to resolution 2113 (2013), the Secretariat, working in close consultation with the African Union Commission, UNAMID and the United Nations

country team, continued with the detailed and forward-looking review of the Mission requested by the Security Council. The review consists of three phases, the first of which involved an updated conflict analysis that identified its causes and drivers in the light of pre-existing and new dynamics. In the second phase, a mission capability analysis was carried out to assess, taking into account the operating environment in Darfur, UNAMID capacity to address the key causes, drivers and effects of the conflict identified in the updated conflict analysis. The third phase involved an African Union and United Nations Headquarters review assessment mission to Darfur from 1 to 10 December to validate the analysis' findings and develop options and recommendations for improving the effectiveness of UNAMID. Consultations with senior African Union officials and discussions with the Government of the Sudan on the findings, which incorporate the recommendations of the civilian staffing review requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/264, are planned for the margins of the African Union Summit to be held from 24 to 31 January 2014. The results of the review will be presented to the African Union Peace and Security Council and the United Nations Security Council in February 2014.

VIII. Progress against benchmarks

69. The present section contains an assessment of progress made against the benchmarks and indicators set out in annex I to my report dated 16 October 2012 (S/2012/771).

70. Progress against the first benchmark, increasing the inclusiveness of the political process, was limited. The implementation by the Government and LJM of the Doha Document was well behind agreed timelines. Preparations for the implementation of development projects under the Darfur Development Strategy were advanced, but actual construction had yet to begin. Two and a half years after the implementation of the Doha Document began, and despite its provisions offering many potential benefits, the agreement has yet to have a tangible impact on the lives of the general population. Nine months after the signing of an agreement between the Government and JEM-Bashar on 6 April to adopt the Doha Document, the only step taken towards its implementation thus far has been the granting of amnesty to JEM-Bashar combatants. While the participation of JEM-Jibril and SLA-Minni Minawi in a technical workshop on humanitarian ceasefires was encouraging, the continued insistence of the movements and the Government on contrary preconditions related to the scope of peace talks prevented a breakthrough in this area.

71. The second benchmark relates to the restoration of a stable and secure environment throughout Darfur. Clashes between government and armed movement forces undermined security in parts of Northern, Southern and Eastern Darfur, in particular along roads and in rural areas in Mellit, El Fasher, Tawilla, East Jebel Marra, Marshang, Niteaga and Shaeria localities. Heavy resource-based intercommunal fighting near the border between Central and Southern Darfur undermined stability in that area for much of October and November. Efforts by the State authorities and community leaders, supported by UNAMID, to peacefully resolve the conflict led to a subsiding in hostilities. In addition, reconciliation agreements reached in the previous reporting period largely held. Banditry threatened security in rural areas and along roads. Security incidents in camps and

main towns, where UNAMID presence and patrolling are mainly concentrated, were less frequent.

72. The third benchmark relates to strengthening the rule of law, governance and the protection of human rights. Discussions between UNAMID and the Ministry of Justice about the deployment of African Union and United Nations specialists to monitor Special Court trials are, if they lead to more transparent and fairer court proceedings, a potentially positive development with regard to strengthening accountability and the rule of law. Access to justice and the rule of law remained otherwise unchanged. The human rights situation, too, remained relatively unchanged during the reporting period. UNAMID continued to train government authorities, the Darfur Regional Authority and community leaders in order to promote greater understanding of human rights and justice principles.

73. The fourth benchmark pertains to stabilizing the humanitarian situation, facilitating the delivery of aid and supporting early recovery. Intercommunal fighting, which displaced an additional 20,100 civilians during the reporting period, increased the need for humanitarian assistance in conflict-affected areas, yet also hindered the delivery of assistance owing to insecurity and access restrictions. Humanitarian actors continued to provide assistance to approximately 110,000 civilians who remain displaced by intercommunal clashes that took place in Northern and Eastern Darfur in the previous reporting period. A temporary disruption in the supply of assistance to some 20,000 civilians in Western Darfur ended after humanitarian actors reached an agreement with the Government whereby the latter would provide security at helicopter landing zones. Overall, progress against this benchmark remained limited.

IX. Financial aspects

74. The General Assembly, in its resolution 67/284, appropriated the amount of $1,335.2 million for the maintenance of the Operation for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014.

75. As at 30 December 2013, unpaid assessed contributions to the UNAMID Special Account amounted to $286.9 million. The total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations as at the same date amounted to $2,395.4 million.

76. As at 30 December 2013, reimbursement to troop-contributing countries for contingent-owned equipment and troop costs had been made for the period up to 30 September 2013 and 31 October 2013, respectively, in accordance with the quarterly payment schedule.

X. Observations

77. In my previous report (S/2013/607), I noted that progress by the signatory parties to the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur, the Government of the Sudan and the Liberation and Justice Movement, towards its implementation had been limited in terms of its impact on the ground. Unfortunately, this has remained the case over the past three months, with the progress made limited mainly to planning and administration, as opposed to action that directly benefited the general population.

Similarly, nine months after the adoption of the Doha Document, implementation by the Government and the other signatory armed movement, JEM-Bashar, has remained slow and limited to providing amnesty to the movement's members, as opposed to measures that provide relief to the civilian population.

78. The pace of implementation of the Doha Document will need to be increased if it is to effectively address the root causes of the conflict and promote stability, as well as attract the support of other movements and the general population. More emphasis is also needed on activities that bring about tangible benefits to ordinary Darfuris. In this connection, I once again call upon the signatory parties to accelerate the implementation of all outstanding provisions of the agreement. This will require demonstrating greater political will and increasing the commitment of resources.

79. Progress towards addressing the causes of the conflict also requires an enabling environment in which such efforts can be undertaken safely and sustainably. Sporadic clashes between government and armed movement forces and outbreaks of resource-based intercommunal conflict continued to seriously undermine security. They also placed civilians at risk of physical violence, displaced an estimated 20,000 people and increased humanitarian assistance needs. The spate of armed attacks by non-signatory movements and militias on government premises, during which vehicles and military equipment were captured, and on civilians travelling between towns in off-road vehicles also seriously undermined stability. I am concerned that, unless this trend is arrested and the rule of law respected and upheld, the security situation in Darfur is at risk of degenerating into an increasingly chaotic situation.

80. The engagement by the Joint Chief Mediator, Mohamed ibn Chambas, of JEM-Jibril Ibrahim, SLA-Minni Minawi and the Government of the Sudan in talks about a humanitarian cessation of hostilities is welcome. An agreement between these parties to cease fighting would have a considerable impact on the security situation. I urge the parties to come together without preconditions or delay to negotiate a cessation of hostilities agreement. I commend the Joint Chief Mediator for the steps taken to encourage countries in the region to play a proactive and constructive role in the Darfur peace process and support his efforts in this regard.

81. Efforts to address the intensification of intercommunal fighting are also needed to improve security and reduce threats to civilians. I welcome the high priority that UNAMID is placing on addressing this dimension of the conflict through, inter alia, the provision of logistical and technical support to government authorities and traditional community leaders engaged in reconciliation efforts. The steps taken by the Sudanese armed forces and the joint Chad-Sudan border forces to prevent intercommunal fighting in Central Darfur are also positive. Ultimately, for local reconciliation efforts to be sustained, they must be supported by measures that address the underlying causes of conflict, in particular as they relate to land and natural resource management, impunity for crimes and the prevalence of arms. The workshops organized by UNAMID on land and peaceful coexistence for local authorities, traditional community leaders and civil society representatives are a positive initiative in this regard.

82. The safety and security environment in which UNAMID and humanitarian personnel work remains very worrying. I condemn in the strongest terms those responsible for attacks on UNAMID personnel, in particular the four fatal attacks

that tragically claimed the lives of seven peacekeepers. I call once again upon the Government of the Sudan to swiftly investigate and bring those responsible to justice. In particular, I expect the Government to act expeditiously in relation to the incident of 29 December, in which one of the perpetrators, who was injured by return fire from UNAMID peacekeepers, was arrested at the scene. I would like to express my sincere condolences to the Governments of Jordan, Rwanda, Senegal and Zambia, as well as to the families, friends and colleagues of the fallen peacekeepers.

83. The rate at which the authorities approved new visa requests for UNAMID personnel during this reporting period is very welcome. I encourage the authorities to continue with this trend. The access restrictions imposed on UNAMID personnel by government security officials, however, constrained the ability of UNAMID to effectively implement its mandate, in particular with regard to the protection of civilians. I strongly urge the Government to adhere to the terms of the status-of-forces agreement and allow UNAMID personnel unimpeded freedom of movement throughout Darfur.

84. In conclusion, I would like to thank the Joint Special Representative and Joint Chief Mediator, Mohamed ibn Chambas, and all the women and men of UNAMID who continue to work tirelessly to protect civilians and promote peace. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to all humanitarian aid workers for their determined efforts to assist and improve the lives of people in need in what are often very challenging conditions in Darfur.